

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G08B26/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G08B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | US 4 406 016 A (ABRAMS BURTON S ET AL) 20 September 1983 (1983-09-20) column 2, line 54 -column 3, line 36; figure 1 ----- | 1,5,7, 11,42,44 |
| P,X | US 6 078 269 A (GOLDBLATT RICHARD ET AL) 20 June 2000 (2000-06-20) abstract; figure 1 ----- | 1,11,44 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Z document member of the same patent family

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| Date of the actual completion of the International search | Date of mailing of the International search report |
| 24 January 2001 | 01/02/2001 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016 | Authorized officer Chapple, I |

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | | Publication date |
|--|---|------------------|----|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| US 4406016 | A | 20-09-1983 | CA | 1188740 | A | 11-06-1985 |
| US 6078269 | A | 20-06-2000 | | NONE | | |